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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/109,082 07/02/98 MELKI

J 2121-140P

002292 HM22/1216  
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH  
P O BOX 747  
FALLS CHURCH VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

HAYES, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1645

7

DATE MAILED:

12/16/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

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
Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application


This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements 37 CFR 1.821 (a)(2)(c-d), which states that each sequence disclosed must appear separately in the "Sequence listing" and in the text of the description *and* claims (i.e., where first mentioned in the specification). See MPEP 2431. In particular, the first sequence, ACACTATCAACTTAATTTCTGATCA, of original claim 16 has no SEQ ID NO; nor has this sequence been cancelled to avoid this requirement to comply with the Sequence Rules. Deleting this sequence would be considered a response to this letter. Note that after a response is received within the statutory time period set forth below, an amendment of claim 16 back to specific sets of paired primers would obviate any subsequent restriction requirement, as it relates to an election of species from the nearly infinite random combination of primers now recited in claim 16.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner **Robert C. Hayes**, Art Unit **1645**, whose telephone number is **703-305-3132**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

APPLICANT IS GIVEN A ONE MONTH EXTENDABLE PERIOD WITHIN WHICH TO COMPLY WITH THE SEQUENCE RULES, 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821(g). Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136. In no case may an applicant extend the period for response beyond the six month statutory period. Applicant is requested to return a copy of the attached Notice to Comply with the response.

  
Robert C. Hayes, Ph.D.  
December 15, 1999

  
ANTHONY C. CAPUTA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600